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International Specialists in the Environment

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10/29/91

## PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TO: Alan Altur, U.S. EPA  
FROM: Kevin Vaught, <sup>KV</sup>FIT  
DATE: October 29, 1991  
SUBJECT: Illinois Central RR Tracks, Chicago, Illinois  
ILD980677645/F05-8705-062/FIL0454PA

The Illinois Central RR Tracks site is an approximately 600 square feet tract of land that lies between two sets of railroad tracks. The site is located between the Chicago South Shore and South Bend Railroad and the Chicago and Western Indiana Railroad, at 119th Street in Chicago, Illinois. The site was originally identified through an aerial photograph of the Sherwin Williams Company taken by the Sidwell Company on September 29, 1980, as part of Sherwin Williams' Part A application under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. This photograph indicated objects resembling drums randomly scattered in the southwest portion of the site. On April 15, 1981, the Surveillance Analysis Division of the United States Environmental Protection Agency conducted a windshield survey of the site and did not observe any drums.

The site is located on land that is in a trust represented by **non responsive** Since 1978 the site has been leased by National Bulkmatic Transport. The only operation performed on-site is loading and unloading of nonhazardous materials.

On August 10, 1987, Ecology and Environment, Inc., Field Investigation Team (FIT) conducted a screening site inspection at the site. During the inspection, FIT observed that there were no barrels present on-site. The area was paved with concrete and gravel, and no stained soil was observed.

On June 19, 1991, FIT performed an off-site reconnaissance inspection of the site. No drums were observed. The site is fenced and appears to be well maintained. The majority of the site is paved. Pavement would inhibit the migration of any spilled or leaked contaminants into groundwater. The nearest residential well is located 2 3/10 miles from the site, in the city of Dolton. The majority of residents within a 4-mile radius of the site obtain drinking water from Lake Michigan.

The nearest body of surface water is Lake Calumet, which is located 1/2 mile east of the site. No migration route exists that would facilitate transport of contaminants from the site to surface water. The site is bordered by railroad tracks and the land surrounding the site is relatively level.

No residences, schools, or day care facilities are located within 200 feet of the site. No odors or releases of hazardous substances to the air have been observed, nor does file information indicate past air problems at the site.

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